

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A method for producing a zinc chloride-loaded support in which zinc chloride is loaded on a solid support, comprising a step of bringing a mixture of the solid support and zinc oxide into contact with water vapor containing a hydrogen chloride gas or a hydrogen chloride gas so that said zinc oxide is chemically converted into zinc chloride.
2. (Original) The method for producing a zinc chloride-loaded support according to claim 1, wherein said zinc oxide is in powder form.
3. (Original) The method for producing a zinc chloride-loaded support according to claim 1, wherein said chemical conversion of zinc oxide into zinc chloride is done in a vessel in which said zinc chloride-loaded support will be used.
4. (Original) The method for producing a zinc chloride-loaded support according to claim 2, wherein said chemical conversion of zinc oxide into zinc chloride is done in a vessel in which said zinc chloride-loaded support will be used.
5. (Original) The method for producing a zinc chloride-loaded support according to claim 1, wherein said solid support is selected from the group consisting of activated carbon, ceramic and silica gel.
6. (Original) The method for producing a zinc chloride-loaded support according to claim 2, wherein said solid support is selected from the group consisting of activated carbon, ceramic and silica gel.

Claims 7-12. (Cancelled).